



STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

P.O. BOX 83720
BOISE, IDAHO 83720-0027

TOM LUNA
STATE SUPERINTENDENT
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

July 25, 2013

Re: Adding Endorsements to Idaho Certificates

Dear Applicant,

As far back as 2000, Idaho moved from a system of teacher preparation and licensure that was based solely upon inputs (credit counts) and moved to a performance-based assessment system. This is reflected in the national shift in preparation standards based upon what a candidate knows *and is able to do*. Since that time, Idaho Administrative Code 08.02.02.021 has also required that all Idaho teaching endorsements are awarded based upon three components: 1) Proof of credit hour requirements; (2) proof of pedagogy, and; (3) proof of performance.*

In order to be in compliance with Board Rule, the Department no longer adds endorsements based upon coursework alone. It is clear that if a candidate is not teaching in the content area while adding the endorsement (or has some sort of clinical experience set up through an approved Idaho preparation program), then there is no way to assess performance and knowledge of content pedagogy. Endorsements may be added if the district in which you are teaching sees the need for the endorsement, and supports putting you on an alternate route. Through this route, the district assigns a mentor to oversee the teaching experience in the desired endorsement area, and signs off as having proof of performance.

If you would like further information on adding an endorsement through this alternative route, please go to our website using the following link: http://www.sde.idaho.gov/site/teacher_certification/alt_routes.htm

And download this package: [Alternative Authorization — Teacher to New Certification/Endorsement Application Packet](#) -The purpose of this alternative authorization is to allow Idaho school districts to request a certificate/endorsement when a professional position cannot be filled with someone who has the correct certificate/endorsement.

Please feel free to contact me using the information below if you have further questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Christina Linder", followed by a horizontal line.

Christina Linder, Director
Certification and Professional Standards
Idaho State Department of Education
cplinder@sde.idaho.gov
(208) 332-6886

*** 08.02.02.021. Endorsements.** Holders of a Secondary Certificate or a Standard Elementary Certificate, Exceptional Child Certificate, Standard Occupational Specialist Certificate, and Advanced Occupational Specialist Certificate may be granted endorsements in subject areas as provided herein. An official statement of competency in a teaching area or field is acceptable in lieu of courses for a teaching major or minor if such statements originate in the department or division of the accredited college or university in which the competency is established and are approved by the director of teacher education of the recommending college or university. **To add an endorsement to an existing credential, an individual shall complete the credit hour requirements as provided herein and shall also meet or exceed the state qualifying score on appropriate, state approved content, pedagogy and performance assessments.** When converting semester credit hours to quarter credit hours, two (2) semester credit hours is equal to three (3) quarter credit hours.